

**REMARKS**

The present invention relates to a process for the preparation of a stimulable rare earth phosphor.

Preliminarily, Applicants are pleased to note that the Examiner considers the previous amendments to overcome the previous rejections.

However, in the Final Office Action, claims 1 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, with respect to the quantitative recitations regarding L, with inadvertent discrepancies that were considered to render the claims indefinite. Furthermore, claims 1 - 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, with respect to the Examiner's observation that what was disclosed in the specification was a "slightly reductive atmosphere", differing from the recitation, e.g., in claim 7, last line of a "reductive atmosphere".

In the present Amendment, claims 1 - 6 have been canceled, and thus obviating the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The error noted by the Examiner related to a typographical matter in the previous amendment.

With the cancellation of claims 1 - 6, claims 7 - 12 remain in the application. Independent claim 7 has been amended herein to recite that the atmosphere is "slightly" reductive, consistent with the disclosure at page 30, line 22, in view of the Examiner's comments.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
U.S. Application No.: 10/799,885

Attorney Docket No.: Q80444

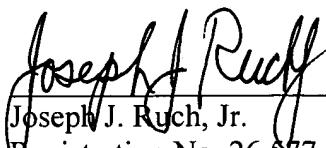
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that remaining claims 7 - 12 are fully in compliance with all requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, and all bases for rejection in the Final Office Action have been obviated.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of remaining claims 7 - 12 of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby earnestly solicited.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: July 17, 2006